

CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. Apparatus for producing printing plates, comprising:
2 a frame,
3 a mounting arranged in said frame;
4 a carrier cylinder having a first end and a second end, said carrier
5 cylinder being cantilever mountable on said mounting via said first end of said carrier cylinder;
6 a motor for driving said carrier cylinder; and
7 an image setting device moveable along said carrier cylinder for setting
8 an image on a blank printing plate arranged on said carrier cylinder, said second end of said
9 carrier cylinder being is freely accessible to permit printing plate change on said carrier
10 cylinder.

1 2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said mounting includes a
2 carrying tube fixed in said frame and a spindle mounted in said carrying tube, said spindle
3 being connected to said carrier cylinder and said motor being arranged in said carrying tube
4 and having a drive connection to said spindle.

1 3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said motor is fixed in said
2 frame and said carrier includes a journal, and said apparatus further comprises an external
3 flexible drive connecting said motor to said journal of said carrier cylinder.

1 4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said carrier cylinder is
2 operatively arranged for receiving a sleeve-like printing plate that can be clamped onto said
3 carrier cylinder, said carrier cylinder having holes arranged in a cover thereof for blowing
4 compressed air against a printing plate inner wall incident printing plate change.

1 5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said carrier cylinder
2 includes a clamping device for clamping a finite printing plate onto said carrier cylinder.

1 6. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said carrier cylinder is one
2 of plural cylinders of different diameters which are mountable on said mounting.

1 7. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said carrier cylinder is one
2 of plural cylinders of different diameters which are mountable on said mounting.

1 8. The apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising an intermediate
2 sleeve borne on said carrier cylinder onto which said sleeve-like printing plate can be clamped,
3 said intermediate sleeve being one of plural intermediate sleeves of different external diameter
4 which can be borne on said carrier cylinder.

1 9. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said carrier cylinder is
2 operative for selectively receiving sleeve-like printing plates of different diameters.

1 10. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said carrier cylinder is
2 operative for receiving one of an offset printing plate, a letterpress printing plate, a
3 flexographic printing plate, and a gravure printing plate.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein a surface of said carrier cylinder
2 comprises said gravure printing plate.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a crossmember arranged in
2 said frame parallel to an axis of rotation of said carrier cylinder, said image setting device
3 being moveable on said crossmember.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an erasing device
2 arrangement which is settable set against said carrier cylinder.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a fixing device
2 arrangement which is settable against said carrier cylinder.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a layer applicator device
2 arrangement which is settable against said carrier cylinder.